

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/689,996

Examiner

Raquel Y. Gordon

Applicant(s)

YOSHIYAMA ET AL.

Art Unit

2853

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

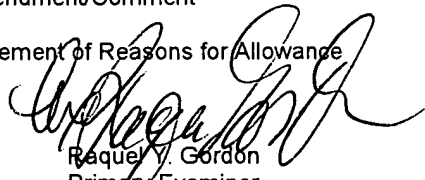
1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Preliminary amendment filed 10/22/2003.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 34-36.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 22 October 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 10/108,567.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 10/03 & 09/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Raquel Y. Gordon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2853

Reasons for allowance

The following is a statement of reasons for allowance:

Upon consideration, the inclusion of the claimed ink cartridge, as claimed in the combination, is not found in the prior art. This difference is considered patentable over the prior art and reflects an improvement in the field of endeavor since the following apparatus claim limitations reflect an improvement in the field of endeavor and over the prior art of record.

The preliminary amendment filed 10/22/2003 had been received and entered.

The instant application is a continuation of Serial No. 10/108567. Serial No. 10/108567 was published 10/3/2002 in Yoshiyama et al. (US 20020140778A1). With respect to the independent claim, the primary reason for allowance is, the claims in Yoshiyama et al. (US 20020140778A1) do not recite "an engaging portion formed in the forth side wall, the engaging portion engaging, in use, the engaged portion on the mount unit; and an ink sensing window formed in the third side wall for indicating residual amount of ink in the ink reservoir."

In consideration of the instant claims, issuing the claims would not violate double patenting statutes by extending the term of the exclusive rights of the abovementioned patents.

Further, IDSs filed 10/22/2003 and 09/21/2004 have been considered but are deemed to merely provide art in the same technical background but not particularly relevant.

Further, an exhaustive search has revealed no prior art to disprove novelty or non-obviousness of the claimed invention.

Hence, the independent claim is now deemed to be allowable. The dependent claims are allowable since they depend from allowed base claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

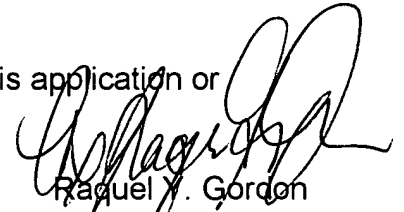
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Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Raquel Y. Gordon, whose telephone number is (571) 272-2145. The Examiner can normally be reached on M Tu Th and F 8:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Stephen Meier can be reached on (571) 272-2149. A fax number is available upon request.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding may be directed to the Examiner or Supervisor.



Raquel Y. Gordon
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2853

October 14, 2004

**RAQUEL GORDON
PRIMARY EXAMINER**